

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend Paragraph [0005] of the Specification as follows:

[0005] In spite of tremendous success of foil air bearings for air cycle machines, their use for gas turbine engines has been limited. This is due to the fact that gas turbine engines operate at higher temperatures and exhibit higher radial and axial loads. The radial loads are carried by foil journal bearings such as shown in U.S. Patent No. [[3,302,014]] 3,382,014 and discussed in ASME paper 97-GT-347 (June 1997) by Giri L. Agrawal entitled "Foil Air/Gas Bearing Technology - An Overview." The axial loads are carried by foil thrust bearings such as shown in U.S. Patent Nos. 3,382,014 and 4,462,700. In recent years, the load capacity of foil journal bearings has increased to a level which is satisfactory to carry radial loads of a typical gas turbine engine. However, the thrust load capacity requirement of a foil thrust bearing to be used for a gas turbine engine could be as much as four times that supplied by present day thrust bearing technology.